

My D^r Uncle John

I should have written to you before but have been rather unwell Seven before it came upon ^{me} I felt a kind of
leanness & languor & predicted its approach.

I have ^{not} been able to find in any Book of Statutes to which I
have had access that any inspection of plays by any parti-
cular Officer was necessary before their representation. As I
read the Prologue of the Merchant the passage suggests the idea
and I find on re-considering it that the meaning which
I gave is more than the Latin will well & naturally
(which is mainly the consideration) allow.

“In am nunc actare sumus
Renardi Sennachus, postquam Adiles emerunt,
Perfect, et sibi ut inspiciundi est et copia.
Magistratus cum ibi adest, accepta stagi.
Exclamat, forem non Poetam fabulam
Dedipe, et nihil dedepe verborum tamen
‘Inspiciundi’. Lavinus (Tuncius inimicus) ~~geta~~ took
at the H^oll after the Comte Adiles had bought the play and

makes himself (take it in this private inspection of his own) sufficiently master of the plot & characters for his purpose of finding fault.

'Magistratus cum ibi adept, accepta 'st agi'

'When the Magistrate (of the C. Ad.) was present, the representation commenced': this would be (w. it at) ~~the~~ a public representation in the presence of one of the C. Ad. Who were the Provosts & Paymasters of the Amusement. Brutus ends. adventus in the plural. 'When the Magistrates the 2 Cm. Ad. were present etc'. but it does not seem necessary to innovate.

Do you think it necessary? does the Latin imply that this representation was at public but only a rehearsal in the Adiles House? - the words st. follow are
'Exclamat, furor, non Poetam fabulam
Dedisse.'

'Exclamat' 'he cries aloud' can this word be said of the objections of Lavinus would raise, if the play were being played in public. would his 'crying aloud' be too great an outrage to society. ~~excessive~~ could be

exclaim among his own coteries, his own fault-finding clique? or does the use of the word 'exclaims' imply too much noise, too much 'row' to be tolerated at a public representation? does the use of this word show that his loud & clamorous objections were raised at a rehearsal at the Adelphi House previous to its public representation? In thinking over this passage objections on either side rise in numbers to my mind so that in its interpretation 'time favor habe, nona deferor illius' the King I clearly see that the 'magistratus' does not mean a 'Licenser' -

I have smoked several (thanks to you) very nice cigars lately: the thinner ones are extremely nice flavoured - mild & aromatic.

I am vexed to say that I shall have no time to turn at Easter, as I find I shall make a ~~start~~ and ~~return~~ behind hand in the world shall not afford the opportunity - besides very little helps towards my M.A. degree which I take on the 2nd April.

Mary is I think quite well: she now then has a little touch of tooth-ache. we all like having her here

J H Doctor
I go down to Brixton for a day or perhaps two on the 7th of April & should be very much pleased to have your Company.

Brixton - March 3rd 1845

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extremely. she reads a good deal. les Basées de Paschal and some German plays she has in hand. I expect the prayer book every minute to - with my kindest love to all at Kensington Believe me, my dear Uncle
Your very affe nephew